Financial progress of Growth Centres as on 26.3.2002

{Rupees in lakh)

SI. No.	Name of Growth Centre/ District	Approved Project cost	Amount of Central, Release	Amount Released by States & its Agencies	Total expenditure
1.	Hindupur(Anantpur)	2728.00	200.00	179.81	379.81
2.	Bobbili (Vizianagaram)	3576.12	551.00	521.34	1072.34
3.	Ongole (Prakasam)	3241.00	760.00	737.67	1497.67

Export of commercial services

2262. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status so far India's exports of commercial services is concerned; and

(b) the details of the measures taken by Government to increase export of commercial services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As per the latest WTO report, the value of exports of commercial services made by India in 2002 is placed at US$ 20.7 billion constituting 1.3% of the world exports of commercial services. The rate of growth of export of commercial services in 2002 over the previous year was 8% in dollar terms.

(b) Under the Exim Policy, the Government has formulated a scheme wherein Service Providers have been allowed duty free credit entitlement for import of spares, office equipment and furniture, professional equipment and consumables, except the agriculture and dairy products. The entitlement would be equivalent to 10% of the average foreign exchange earned by them in the preceding three licensing years excepting for the Service Providers in the Tourism Sector. The entitlement in the case of hotels of the category of three star and above and those related to the Tourism Sector, registered with the Department of Tourism,

would be 5% of the average foreign exchange earned by them in the preceding three licensing years. The scheme will cover only those Service Providers who have an average foreign exchange earning of over Rs. 10 lakhs in the preceding three licensing years.

Border trade through N.E. Corridor

2263. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the clause-wise implementation status of the package finalized towards upgradation of trade and commerce with the neighbouring countries through N.E. corridor showing location-wise infrastructure developed so far and the achievements made:

(b) the details of the agreements reached with the neighbouring ountries for promotion of border trade: and

(c) the progress made on reopening and improvement of Stillwell road, connecting N.H. 38 through Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) onsequent to the visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Central Government has set up an Empowered Committee on Promotion of Trade and Exports in North East and Sikkim.The important steps taken to upgrade trade and commerce with the neighbouring countries through the North East region are as under:

(i) Four border townships at Zokhawtha (Mizoram). Moreh (Manipur). Dawki (Meghalaya) and Sutarkhandi (Assam) have been identified for development of trade related infrastructure and an amount of Rs. 16.29 crores has been sanctioned.

(ii) A trade-cum-exhibition centre has been sanctioned at Guwahati for which an amount of Rs. 13.40 crores has been sanctioned.

(iii) 'APEDA has sanctioned four reefer vans in the North East region for perishable goods and has set up a cold storage at Guwahati.

(iv) An Agri Export Zone has been sanctioned in Assam.